

The Sun

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1910.

Published by The Sun Printing and Publishing Association, Inc., at No. 100 Nassau Street, New York.

Subscription by Mail, Postpaid

For One Year	\$5.00
For Six Months	\$3.00
For Three Months	\$1.50
For One Month	.50

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ment, a process which does away with the trouble of discussion, universal suffrage, separation of Church and State, banishment of the Jesuits, free and easy divorce, all matters that are settled in a twinkling by a stroke of the pen. So far no evidence has appeared of what support these measures are likely to receive from the army and navy and from the greater part of the Portuguese people. All that we hear of is apathetic acquiescence for the time being.

It is a curious and humiliating sign of how little importance Portugal has in Europe that nobody seems to care about what is going on there. Though Lisbon and Oporto are important sea ports, business has gone on as usual, without any official notice of the change in Government being taken by the nations whose ships ply there. Like the Portuguese people, the Powers are apparently willing to wait indefinitely to see what may turn up. The news agencies have not had the enterprise to find out what the country thinks nor what the regular political parties are likely to do. What is stranger, considering how much British capital is invested in Portugal, the London newspapers have shown as little interest in the matter. The Times has been content with the ordinary news reports, and that *humble* "enterprising correspondent" who described vividly the havoc on warships which were not there and other picturesque incidents of the Lisbon outbreak, had no heart for prosaic business.

Senator BRAGA and the republicans may have the nation behind them, but that has not been demonstrated yet. They may be kept in place by the toleration of the practical politicians until these have found an acceptable solution for the difficulties created by the removal of the King. Their tenure of office certainly seems precarious, and even more precarious seems the fate of the reforms they are trying to institute. However desirable, they cannot endure for long without the support of the people.

The Failure of Disfranchisement in Maryland

It may be doubted whether the decision rendered by Judge THOMAS J. MORRIS in the United States Circuit Court in Maryland invalidating the law of that State which sought to exclude negroes from local elections would be affirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States. The effect of the decision would be to restore to the negroes the right of voting in local elections, a right which they have lost since the adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment.

The Annapolis law, as it is called in Maryland, could be sustained only if it were determined that the Fifteenth Amendment did not apply to all public elections, State or local as well as national. The framers of the Annapolis law contended that as Maryland had never accepted the Fifteenth Amendment, the Legislature in regulating local elections was not bound by it; they contended that no law could be put on the statute book to prevent absolutely the participation of negroes in Congress elections. By excluding negroes from the registration lists made up for municipal elections they planned the virtual disfranchisement of the negro. Three negroes denied registration in Annapolis brought suit against the Democratic officers under Section 1979 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which provides that every person who under color of any State law deprives a citizen of any right secured by the Constitution and laws of the United States shall be liable to the person injured in damages. To establish their case the plaintiffs had to show that that part of the Annapolis law excluding them from local elections was unconstitutional. So Judge MORRIS has held in the following simple terms:

"It is primarily the right of suffrage which was to be protected against any restrictive legislation of the States, which was the subject matter dealt with by the Fifteenth Amendment and the Federal statutes. And considering the purpose of the act, it does not seem that any other construction can be defended."

As to the contention that the Fifteenth Amendment applies only to Congressional elections Judge MORRIS says:

"Nothing in the way of interpretation by the legislative body, which itself framed the amendment, could be more significant than the enactment of Section 1979, passed by Congress immediately upon its adoption. I do not find in the case cited from the Supreme Court anything opposed to that interpretation. It seems clear that when the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by any State on account of race or color it means that Congress understood it to mean, namely, the right to vote in all public elections."

The plea that the defendants were not liable in damages because they were directed by a State law not to register negroes Judge MORRIS disposes of by saying:

"In enforcing the discriminating provisions of the State statute the registers were doing and intended to do an act forbidden by the Supreme law of the land, and for doing which the State statutes could afford them no protection."

If it be assumed that the Supreme Court will affirm Judge MORRIS's decision it does not follow that the "grandfather clause" in the Constitutions of Southern States will be declared invalid in consequence. The effect of the "grandfather clause" is to disfranchise negroes as a class, but it must be remembered that it is possible for a negro to vote in spite of it, and the exceptions it has been maintained, save the law. In Louisiana, for instance, there are educational and property qualifications that affect the negroes, disfranchising most of them, but which the whites are permitted to evade if they were voters in any State on January 1, 1867, or the sons or grandsons of such voters. It should be noted that the privilege of registration by those taking advantage of the provision expired on September 1, 1898. The intent of this "grandfather clause" was to shut out all negroes who could not read and write or who did not own property worth \$500. A sufficient device would be the production of any negro who could qualify under it. The Maryland and Louisiana cases are not parallel. In Louisiana the application of the Fifteenth Amendment to local

elections is not denied. What is sought to be done there, and so far successfully, is to minimize the force of the Fifteenth Amendment by an enactment that disfranchises the ninety and nine, but admits the one-hundredth to the suffrage. It is a discrimination that just escapes being unconstitutional by a finely drawn technicality.

Folk Songs or Not?

The recent publication of a volume of negro minstrel melodies has again brought out the frequent assertion that the songs of STEPHEN C. FOSTER are folk songs. Mr. FOSTER's melodies may be beautiful in themselves, strongly national in their nature, and they undoubtedly reflect the characteristics of a large section of the population of the United States. But they are certainly not folk songs in the sense that word is understood by musicians.

It is not enough to entitle Mr. FOSTER's songs to the description of folk songs that they have been recognized from one end of this country to the other as a most characteristic contribution to American music, perhaps the most characteristic in all original music of this country's national music. Nor is their musical composition, however simple that may be sufficient to make a composition so essentially a song of the people that it deserves the special name of folk song, which in musical literature has a specific meaning. The mere fact that a song may have clear and fluent melody, be composed without harmonic intricacy, and be sung by a whole people, does not yet serve to put it in the category of folk songs as they are understood by musical authorities.

Folk tunes, as one authority has poetically expressed it, are the wild flowers in the realm of music. They spring up from the life of the people, and their origin is no easier to trace than the cause of the weed's growth. No composer, therefore, who deliberately sets to work to compose a song can ever call it a folk song, however expressive it may be of the character of a people. He may compose melodies that are in the form of folk songs, and noted composers have interested themselves in experiments of this kind. Sometimes they are a severe test of a composer's musicianship and scientific skill. But whatever else they may be, they cannot be called folk songs. It is the deliberate and artificial birth of STEPHEN C. FOSTER's songs that keeps them out of this class.

On the other hand, genuine folk songs have often inspired composers to some of their noblest efforts. HAYDN, who disdained nothing that came to his hand, made use of folk songs, and so in a later century did FRANZ LISZT. FRANZ LISZT also found a spark to inflame his genius in the same kind of Hungarian melodies that LISZT had employed, and so did JOHANNES BRAHMS, CHOPIN, TSCHAIKOWSKY, DVORAK and GRIGG imparted to their compositions some of the perfumes from these wild flowers, and the greater BEETHOVEN did not ignore this same inspiration. Yet these composers went to the songs that had sprung from the hearts of the people. They were not satisfied to seek their inspiration from any copies of them or from any works of composers who had successfully caught the spirit and character of genuine folk music.

Does It Mean the Partition of Persia?

The ultimatum which the British Government has addressed to Persia regarding the improvement of conditions in the southern part of that country has not the reception that might have been expected by Sir EDWARD GREY. In Germany professors to have discovered the first steps in the partition of Persia between Great Britain and Russia, and the "jungs" have a new basis for a serious Anglo-German misunderstanding.

In his note the British Foreign Secretary gave the Persian Government three months in which to restore the security of trade routes in southern Persia, if this is not done Great Britain will take over the policing of the routes with a force organized locally, but under the command of Indian army officers. The expenses are to be defrayed by a surcharge upon the Persian Gulf customs. The acquiescence of Russia was secured before the note was sent. Russia has already a considerable force at Tabriz and Teheran, and in spite of the opposition that they are necessary to the maintenance of order, the British, it is claimed, are following the example of Russia and are endeavoring to secure the same position through the presence of troops in southern Persia that Russia has in northern. The Berlin newspapers treat the British note as a "death knell of Persian independence." The *Kreuz Zeitung* makes this comment:

"The allied English and Russian seem to be getting tired of any imaginary, and are setting out to swallow together the fat morsel which they have long been coveting. Some days ago we reported the mortgage of the customs dues of the Persian Gulf ports to England, and suggested that this might be regarded as the first step toward the partition of Persia. Since then the British Government has thrown off the mask altogether and has announced in sharp language to the Persian Government that the moment for the partition of Persia has drawn near. England first attempted to induce Russia to withdraw from Persia and to leave the spoils to England alone. When this attempt failed and Russia, in view of the cost of the Persian adventure, demanded positive compensation, the two Powers, it seems, agreed to proceed together to settle the Persian question."

The British disclaim any such intention, declare that they have endured the gradual decline of their trade in southern Persia with "unexampled restraint," and that the present condition in that section is "without a parallel in any civilized country." Although the country is without railways and most of the roads were rock trails, yet in powerful times Great Britain had a lucrative trade, and one in which she had a preponderance. Now even such important routes as those from Bushire to Shiraz and from Bandar Abbas to Kerman are held by brigands. Shiraz is the seat of fierce rivalry between wild tribesmen, and the port of Bushire is perpetually menaced.

GOLDWIN SMITH'S STORY OF HIS LIFE AT OXFORD.

The great lights of the University in the middle of the last century. Personal Reminiscences of Newman, Pusey, Keble, Thomas and Matthew Arnold. Intermittently at Christ Church and was thus brought into brief contact with Dean Gifford. The dean was called the Athenian Blacksmith, and both parts of the nickname were well deserved. He was a first-rate Greek scholar, though I venture to think that as an editor of the classics he addressed somewhat slavishly to certain manuscripts. But for his manners his friends could only say that his heart was good, which, as an authority was not possible, could give little satisfaction to those who suffered from his rudeness. "Cultivate classical literature, which not only enables you to look down on content," on those who are less learned than yourself, but often leads to places of considerable influence, even in this world." Such was the comic analysis of one of Gifford's university sermons, and probably it was scarcely a caricature. However, from Christ Church I was soon transferred to Magdalen, where, at the instance of my good friend Frederick Bulley, afterward president, I was nominated to a demyship by the president, Martin Routh. My Magdalen like my Eton, was a relic of the past. It had forty fellowships, thirty demysheips or scholarships, and a revenue of £10,000 a year, besides its rich dower of historic beauty. It took to commons and its educational system in the eighteenth century, but it had graduate lemons and one gentleman commoner, who, being under the phantom authority of the nonagenarian president, lived in a license beyond even the normal license of his class. Frederick Bulley, afterward president, did something for us as tutor, at least in the way of most kindly interest and encouragement, but we really depended for instruction upon private tutors, "tutors" they were called. I was coached at different times by Congreve, then fellow of Wadham, and a strong liberal and Evangelical of Arnold's school, afterward a Unitarian and head of one section of the Positivist Church in England; by the excellent Mountague Bernard, afterward professor of law, and what was perhaps more important one of the founders of the *Guardian*, and by Linwood, the author of an edition of the *Anglo-Saxon*, and editor of the *Miss Oxoniensis*. Linwood was a modest, unassuming, and a very good fellow. He had written in an examination twelve Greek iambic verses, which may be seen slightly cut down in the *Miss Oxoniensis*, and which might easily pass for an extract from a second-rate play of Euripides. But he never sustained his undergraduate reputation. His *Echylus* is genuine, and he somehow ended in editing.

As a fortunate in the members of our little circle of demys, with positive interest I recall their names. One of them I saw afterward a Roman Catholic priest. We lived a happy life in our minor common room, seeing perhaps rather too little of the university outside, though my Eton connection gave me acquaintances. Our star was Congreve, afterward professor of Latin, who had come up from Rugby a wonderful scholar with a marvellous memory and carried everything before him in examinations. His figure was rather grotesque, and there was about him a touch of the Dominie Sampson which tempted little practical jokes, though the story of his having been put under the pump is totally baseless and utterly unjust to his college mates, who were all of them as quiet and well bred as they could be. His learning perhaps was superior to his taste, but he was a great scholar, and would have been greater had not his life been cut short. He seemed to be the toughest of men, and little did I think that I should survive him.

My kind friend allowed me a horse, and pleasant rides I had over the higher country round the flat on which Oxford is built, by Magley, Epsford, Wood Eaton, Stow Wood, Beckley and other points of beauty. The country was more open to the horseman then than it is now. Lord Alington, a kind and generous man, to his lovely park at Wytham. These rides were favorable to reflection as well as to health and enjoyment. The beauty of the college itself, with its Gothic quadrangle, its lawns and its deer park, was a perpetual delight. It would be hard to say whether the quadrangle looked its best under the summer sun or under the winter moon when the snow lay on its roof. Now it is a happy, cheerful, and comfortable as an element of education.

About our president, Martin Routh, much has already been written. He died of an accidental malady in his handwriting. He had lived with Pusey as an undergraduate he had seen Dr. Johnson. He had seen the elevation of the house of Temple to the peerage, and he saw its fall. Yet he had been so wrapped up in his study of the fathers and such a devoted follower of the great men of the times through which he had lived, that the side of his books, country genealogies were his theme. He was never seen but in full canonicals of the fashion of the last century. Somebody has said that he would show Routh without his canonicals and thought to win the bet by crying "Fire!" of which Routh was horribly afraid, at the dead of night under his window. Routh, it is said, appeared in a great fright but in full canonicals. Such was the story. Routh prolonged his life by excessive care, living as it were under a glass case and never going abroad except in the finest summer weather. On a Sunday in summer at afternoon chapel there would sometimes be a movement among the visitors in the ante-chapel, which with the reverential attitude of the porter and presently the shuffling of aged feet announced the president's approach. Till near the end of his life Routh presided at the terminal examinations, and collections, as they were called, when he would put questions on the history of the Odyssey and explain that in those days no indecency was involved in the attendance of ladies on gentlemen in the bath. His deafness, increased by his wig, combined with his old-fashioned respect for footmen, led to a funny incident. A gentleman commoner, an old friend of mine, having been beyond measure fatigued, was being reproached by the tutors. The president, who had been looking the other way, hearing the loud sound of voices, turned around, saw a baronet's son on the opposite side of the table, and taking for granted that the tutors were taking him compliments, chimed in with, "I am very happy, Mr. Blank, to hear that the tutor was so good." Pray tell Mr. Charles with my compliments that you are a credit to the college.

The president held with his presidency the country living of Theale, where he was said to preach erudite sermons to the natives. Routh's Patriotic bearing, which was then unique and had produced the "Religious Service," made him a grand figure in the University. He was a man of great power, and he was a man of great power, and he was a man of great power.

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THE GREAT LIGHTS OF THE UNIVERSITY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAST CENTURY.

Personal Reminiscences of Newman, Pusey, Keble, Thomas and Matthew Arnold. Intermittently at Christ Church and was thus brought into brief contact with Dean Gifford. The dean was called the Athenian Blacksmith, and both parts of the nickname were well deserved. He was a first-rate Greek scholar, though I venture to think that as an editor of the classics he addressed somewhat slavishly to certain manuscripts. But for his manners his friends could only say that his heart was good, which, as an authority was not possible, could give little satisfaction to those who suffered from his rudeness. "Cultivate classical literature, which not only enables you to look down on content," on those who are less learned than yourself, but often leads to places of considerable influence, even in this world." Such was the comic analysis of one of Gifford's university sermons, and probably it was scarcely a caricature. However, from Christ Church I was soon transferred to Magdalen, where, at the instance of my good friend Frederick Bulley, afterward president, I was nominated to a demyship by the president, Martin Routh. My Magdalen like my Eton, was a relic of the past. It had forty fellowships, thirty demysheips or scholarships, and a revenue of £10,000 a year, besides its rich dower of historic beauty. It took to commons and its educational system in the eighteenth century, but it had graduate lemons and one gentleman commoner, who, being under the phantom authority of the nonagenarian president, lived in a license beyond even the normal license of his class. Frederick Bulley, afterward president, did something for us as tutor, at least in the way of most kindly interest and encouragement, but we really depended for instruction upon private tutors, "tutors" they were called. I was coached at different times